

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed on 8/23/2007 erroneously contends that Applicants' last response (filed on 7/2/2007) was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action. The Office bases that conclusion on the fact that Applicants' last response included a request for a telephone interview before issuance of the next Office Action but did not include form PTOL-413A ("Applicant Initiated Interview Request") with a brief description of issues to be addressed, citing "MPEP37 CFR 1.133" [sic].

The Office is wrong for three reasons:

First, "Applicants are encouraged to use form PTO-413A, however, the fact that applicant does not submit an "Applicant Initiated Interview Request" form is not, by itself, grounds for the examiner to deny a request for an interview." MPEP 713.01 (emphasis added).

Second, since no requirement for an examiner interview was mentioned in the Final Office Action mailed on 4/5/2007, Applicants' failure to submit a PTOL-413A form with their last response cannot be considered a lack of responsiveness to that Office Action, notwithstanding the fact that their response included a request for an interview. Applicants' response filed on 7/2/2007 was fully responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on 4/5/2007.

Third, contrary to the Office Action's assertion, 37 C.F.R. 1.133 does not contain any requirement that a PTOL-413A form or any other particular form be submitted prior to an examiner interview.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that their amendment filed with RCE on 7/2/2007 was fully responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on 4/5/2007. Applicants

therefore respectfully request that the Examiner enter that response on the record and reconsider the present application in view of it.

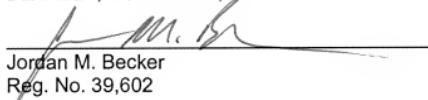
Furthermore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' representative (the undersigned) to schedule an interview before issuing another Office Action.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: September 10, 2007


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